

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 04516 242256Z

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SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

REF: BRUSSELS 4532, VIENNA 4469

IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTELS, FOLLOWING BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FOR TRANSMISSION TO MRS. WEIDENFELD AND MR. CAVANEY AT THE WHITE HOUSE:

RUTH ELIZABETH BUCHANAN. MRS. BUCHANAN, WIFE OF THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES TO AUSTRIA, WAS BORN AT ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, ON FEBRUARY 22, 1918. HER PARENTS WERE WILLIAM J. AND HELEN DOW HALE, OF MIDLAND, MICHIGAN.

MRS. BUCHANAN ATTENDED THE POTOMAC SCHOOL AND THE HOLTON-ARMS SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND CONNECTICUT COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, FROM WHICH SHE RECEIVED A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIOLOGY IN 1939. SHE WAS MARRIED IN 1940 TO WILEY T. BUCHANAN, JR., OF WASHINGTON, D.C., AND TEXAS.

MRS. BUCHANAN ACCOMPANIED HER HUSBAND TO LUXEMBOURG IN 1953, WHERE HE SERVED AS UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR. WHILE IN LUXEMBOURG, MRS. BUCHANAN STUDIED PAINTING. SHE CONTINUED HER WORK IN WASHINGTON, D.C. SPECIALIZING IN MINIATURE OILS. HER PAINTINGS HAVE BEEN EXHIBITED AT THE WASHINGTON GALLERY OF ART.

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MRS. BUCHANAN IS ALSO AN AVID GARDENER AND FLOWER ARRANGER.

HER EXHIBITS HAVE WON SEVERAL PRIZES AT THE NATIONAL FLOWER SHOW
AT WASHINGTON, D.C. SHE SERVED IN WASHINGTON ON THE BOARDS OF
THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN AND THE CORCORAN ART GALLERY AND AS
TRUSTEE OF THE HOLTON-ARMS SCHOOL. IN 1969 SHE WAS APPOINTED A
MEMBER OF THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS BY PRESIDENT NIXON.

AMBASSADOR AND MRS. BUCHANAN HAVE THREE CHILDREN, BONNIE
(MRS. CHARLES MATHESON), OF THE PLAINS, VIRGINIA; DIANE
(MRS. JOHN TRAINA) OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA; AND WILEY T.
BUCHANAN III, OF MARSHALL, VIRGINIA. THEY HAVE SEVEN GRANDCHILDREN.
BUCHANAN

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